

a cross-country train trip to live with their unwelcoming grandparents in California. By her early teens, she had to leave their home and begin working as a nanny.

Dorothy worked as a secretary in Chicago before marrying Hugh Rodham and raising their three children: Hillary, Hugh, and Tony. Throughout her life, Mrs. Rodham worked hard to ensure that her children and grandchildren had the opportunities she had been denied.

Dorothy and I shared a great joy—our grandson Zachary. I saw first-hand what a wonderful influence she was for Zach, always there for him in every way. She was that way for all her grandchildren, including her first remarkable grandchild—Chelsea.

When Hillary Rodham Clinton was asked who inspired her to succeed in public life, she credited the women's movement and Dorothy Rodham, "who never got a chance to go to college, who had a very difficult childhood, but who gave me a belief that I could do whatever I set my mind to."

Dorothy Rodham was an extraordinary woman—strong, compassionate and loving. She will be sorely missed by her loved ones, by her friends, and by the American people.

TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL LARRY GENE BAILEY II

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of one of Illinois' most heroic sons, LCpl Larry Gene Bailey II of Zion. Lance Corporal Bailey joined the Marines in October 2007, and like his father, a Vietnam Veteran, he too wanted to serve his country. His parents and his country are very proud of his service and sacrifice.

On June 23, 2011 in Helmand province, Lance Corporal Bailey ran to a rooftop to provide cover for his unit under heavy fire. An improvised explosive device took both of his legs and one of his arms. This young man's will to live and recover are an inspiration to us all.

With the support of his parents Mary and Larry, he has made great strides in his recovery. This Veterans Day, our nation owes a great debt of gratitude to families like the Baileys, whose service to our nation continues to preserve our American way of life.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a poem penned in honor of Lance Corporal Bailey by Albert Caswell.

MAKE MY FATHER PROUD

IN HONOR OF AN AMERICAN HERO LANCE CORPORAL LARRY GENE BAILEY II. LIMA CO. 3rd BATTALION 7TH MARINES DIVISION THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

A son is born . . .
Out of a love so very warm . . .
His dad, an American hero . . . who for our
Nation so wore the uniform . . .
As day after day, a love built up . . . that
which time could not so take away, or
so harm!
Until, like father like son . . . He too, would
serve his country tis of thee one!
As a United States Marine, all in those most
magnificent shades of green!

For in his heart, he so wanted to be . . . just
like his Dad . . . his father he!
His Dad, in the Navy, so served in Vietnam
aboard a submarine . . .
But, his fine son Larry . . . Hooo . . . rah!
Became a United States Marine!
And they have better uniforms Dad, all in
his most heroic shades of green!
And oh what a striking figure he'd so
cast . . .
As this quiet hero, stood tall . . . and so did
all that they so asked!
As into the face of hell, as Lance Corporal
Bailey II . . . so stood fast!
So strong, with combat ribbons on his chest!
As he so wanted, to make his Father proud!
When, on that fateful day . . .
As a IED, almost took his fine life away . . .
As this mountain of a man, so lost his arm
and both of his legs . . .
So close to death, as when this quiet hero's
courage would so crest!
As his new battle began on that day, but To
Be The Best!
As this quiet hero, so courageously so wiped
all of those tears away!
And his Father with tears in his eyes, and
mother too upon their knees for his son
so prayed!
As this hero from Zion, his Father's son . . .
got up that day!
And ran all with his heart of courage full,
and so made his way!
A way of hope and courage, to so show us all!
what faith in hearts can so nourish!
For he is his Father's son, and Mother's
child . . .
as over the years so much from them he had
so learned!
But, now the tides have changed . . . as now
its his Father, who so calls out his
name!
As he so wants to be, just like his son . . .
you see!
As now, he is the one who so makes his Fa-
ther proud . . .
and like his son wants to be!
As to our nation, and our hearts . . . his
Strength In Honor so speaks!
As one of The Illini's, most courageous of all
sons!
This American Hero, his Father's Son!
For some people are put on this earth, to so
Teach us all in their great worth!
To so make us all so very proud!
To show us all, where faith and honor so
lives now!
And how a Father's and Mother's love, can so
raise a splendid child so how!
That's right Marine, you make us all so
proud!
As we watch you and your fine heart and
soul, so rebuild so now . . .
As to one and all, your most magnificent
heart speaks so loud!
Because, Marine's don't cry or pout!
Because, Marines they get things done . . .
as they move up and out!
And if ever I have a son Larry,
I wish he could make me half as proud, as
you've made your parents my son!
Because this Marine from Zion, even makes
his fellow Marines cheer Hoo rah . . .
so now!
So keep you heard up my son,
Because your Father is so Proud of you for
all that you've done!
And so too is our Lord, who'll one day up in
Heaven with you he will run!
Moments, upon this earth . . . are all we
have! To make a difference with it all!
To change the world! To go off with hearts of
courage full, as so unfurled!
As it's you Larry, who so makes us all so
proud . . .
Above us all, Lance Corporal Bailey . . . you
stand so tall!

TRIBUTE TO GERARD AND LILO LEEDS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my friends Gerry and Lilo Leeds for their passionate commitment to improving the Nation's education system and helping all students reach their maximum potential.

Gerard and Lilo Leeds arrived in the United States after fleeing Germany in 1939 with virtually no money. But armed with their education, they eventually became successful entrepreneurs. In time, they built and then sold a sizable media corporation and have devoted their lives to ensuring that all students have access to an excellent education.

Initially, the Leeds founded the non-partisan Institute for Student Achievement an organization that works in low-income middle and high schools to improve student achievement for at-risk youth. They were major supporters of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, a coalition of concerned parents and education advocates working to reform New York State's school finance system. The Leeds also established the nonpartisan Caroline and Sigmund Schott Foundation an organization that works on early childhood education and care, gender equity, and education financing issues.

However, Gerry and Lilo Leeds did not stop there. After seeing the Institute for Student Achievement boost graduation rates in low-performing schools up as high as 90 percent, they founded the nonpartisan Alliance for Excellent Education in 2001 to singularly focus on advancing public policy to decrease dropout rates and prepare all students to succeed at the postsecondary level. The Alliance for Excellent Education has advocated on behalf of secondary school youth now for over 10 years thanks to the leadership and support of the Leeds family.

Mr. and Mrs. Leeds have worked to improve the education of students from every background, location, and age. Lilo Leeds has made education for students in less affluent communities, universal early education, and the advancement of women the focus of her work. She is also the co-founder of the Great Neck/Manhasset Community Child Care partnership. Gerry Leeds is the co-founder of the National Academy for Excellent Teacher, NAFET at Teachers College, Columbia University. Together, they are recipients of humanitarian awards from the Urban League, NAACP, New York State United Teachers Association, and the American Jewish Committee. They were listed by Newsday in the top 100 people who have shaped the century, an amazing feat especially considering the obstacles they both had to overcome.

This couple has provided countless opportunities for children to succeed. I believe they have been so committed to this cause in part because they see themselves in children who have to overcome tremendous obstacles to thrive. Fundamentally, the Leeds feel a